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INFO RUEHXX/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 CAIRO 001148

SIPDIS

FOR NEA/ELA AND DRL/IRF

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/18/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KDEM](#) [KWMN](#) [PHUM](#) [SOCI](#) [EG](#)

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT ON WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT REF: A. CAIRO 0044 B. 08 CAIRO 2310 Classified By: Economic-Political Minister Counselor William R Stewart for reason  
1.Key Points: -- (U) On June 15 the parliament approved an amendment to the People's Assembly Law (1972) to allot 64 new seats for women repres

2.(U) The new amendment to the People's Assembly Law of 1972 stipulates a quota for women's participation in the Peoples Assembly (PA) for a pe

3.(C) In the media, National Democratic Party (NDP) members praised the law. Amal Othman, a woman, a National Democratic Party (NDP) MP and hes

4.(U) Muslim Brotherhood "independent" MP's voted against the amendment and according press reports, Dr. Mohammed Saad Katatni, head of the MB

5.(C) Public comment from independent MPs was also negative. Many were concerned that a quota was not the optimum way to achieve women's partic

6.(C) Media reports of conflicting comments from NDP leaders like Moufid Shehab, who urged political parties to prepare for elections at "any t

7.(C) Hossam Badrawi also refuted rumors of dissolution, saying it would be "difficult to happen without me being part of it." Badrawi did ackr

8.(C) Rumors have surfaced in the last two weeks, in the press and from the Prime Minister's office, that a high level meeting is in the works

9.(C) NDP insiders Mohamed Kamal and Hossam Badrawi both believe dissolution is unlikely and we are inclined to believe them. That Mubarak has

10.(C) Others tell us that these rumors, both dissolution and Gamal Mubarak's selection as the NDP presidential candidate, may also reflect det